

## **IOSH update for POOSH meeting 3 February 2010**

### **Consultation**

- *Sentencing for corporate manslaughter and health and safety offences causing death* – IOSH submitted a response to the Sentencing Guidelines Council's consultation, in which we welcomed the availability of publicity orders and remedial orders for corporate manslaughter convictions, in addition to fines that reflect the seriousness of the offences; and remained of the view that a percentage of average annual turnover (or equivalent) is appropriate for helping achieve equal economic impact in organisations of different sizes, with 2.5% minimum in corporate manslaughter convictions. The IOSH response is available at [www.iosh.co.uk/condocs](http://www.iosh.co.uk/condocs)
- *Research Excellence Framework* – we also responded to the 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation on the assessment and funding of research by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, welcoming the proposed assessment of economic and social impacts, which we felt particularly positive for practice-based disciplines such as OSH and related subjects, but highlighting the long-term nature of them and the need for expertise in assessing interdisciplinary contributions. The IOSH response is available at [www.iosh.co.uk/condocs](http://www.iosh.co.uk/condocs)

### **Guidance**

- *Working well: guidance on promoting health and wellbeing at work; Setting standards in health and safety: raising performance through training and competence development; and Think about health and safety: what elected members of local authorities need to know*; were all promoted at the latest Westminster Briefing event, 'Leading from the front'.

IOSH guides are free to download from [www.iosh.co.uk/techguide](http://www.iosh.co.uk/techguide)

### **HSE collaboration**

- *Respiratory protective equipment (RPE)* – IOSH attended the second RPE stakeholder meeting in Liverpool, together with FSB; CIA; EEF; BSIF; UK Contractors Group; TUC; BOHS; Cast Metals Federation; and IOM. Topics covered included: review of HSG53; 'wearability'; model simulator; inspector training DVD and employer good practice DVD; the report 'Factors influencing the implementation of RPE programmes in the workplace'; and the "Clean Air? – Take Care!" campaign.

- *Accreditation of H&S consultants* – as part of the HSE-funded feasibility study, IOSH has conducted a survey of consultants (from BOHS, CIEH, IEHF (ES), IIRSM, and IOSH) and have received 1,100 responses. We have also conducted a survey of SMEs via Federation of Small Business and Forum of Private Business. The purpose of both surveys is to help gauge the level of support / demand for an ‘accreditation scheme’ and stakeholder expectations of it. CIEH are examining existing models to help identify a suitable option(s). A second stakeholder meeting takes place 4 February 2010 and HSE will produce a project summary in due course.
- *LEV training* – around 50 IOSH members have been selected to receive free training on the latest LEV guidance and training materials developed by HSE. Once trained, they will cascade this training to other IOSH members at Branch level. Each LEV-trained member will be provided with a USB pen containing all the training materials, so the training can be further cascaded within members’ organisations.

#### **IOSH research fund update**

- *2010 call for bids* – this year, as we are progressing with our research programme, our call for bids will go ahead, but will not be themed.
- *Research Programme* – following short-list interviews, a suitable individual has now been selected for the IOSH Research Programme Director position and we are in discussions with the individual.
- *Olympic Park project* – researchers from the 2 selected projects looking at the evaluation of safety interventions are now carrying out ‘feasibility / scoping’ studies, prior to submitting full research proposals to the IOSH Research Committee.

#### **IOSH development fund update**

- *Hong Kong Branch anniversary* – the fund supported the IOSH Hong Kong Branch event to mark their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This involved local business leaders and the IOSH President.

#### **Lobbying activities**

- IOSH’s one-to-one meetings with MPs and Peers continue.
- The IOSH manifesto ‘Creating a healthier UK plc’, outlining our policies on the health agenda; education; support for SMEs and access to good advice, has now been distributed to all MPs in Westminster.

## Other activities

- Organised on behalf of IOSH by 'Total Politics', a breakfast roundtable meeting, titled 'Health and safety: sensible ways to protect people and businesses', discussed health issues, negative media portrayal, the effects of the recession and the IOSH manifesto. It brought together Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrats MPs, and representatives from IOSH, HSE Board, CBI, IoD, FSB, Unite and LACORS. The discussions were included as part of a special 5-page report in December's Total Politics magazine, which also helped promote the IOSH manifesto and 3 of our recent guides: 'Think about health and safety'; 'Working well'; and 'A healthy return'.
- IOSH attended the HSE's Safety Alerts workshop in Liverpool, together with representatives from a range of business community and professional organisations, trade unions and government departments. The purpose of the workshop was to:
  - a. provide a platform for delegates to share their views on safety alerts and how the information can be shared effectively
  - b. present the HSE approach to issuing safety alerts
  - c. encourage participants to recognise how they can contribute to the timely sharing of key health and safety information.
- IOSH exhibited and held a series of short workshops for young people on understanding risk at *Lancashire Business Education Partnership – EXPO 2010*. This successful event took place in Accrington and Rossendale college and was open to all year 9s (14 year olds) in Lancashire.

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3 February 2010